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April 10, 2002 LB 1309

commitment of \$40,000. Blind and visually impaired, \$11,000, obviously a fairly small amount for a very small agency, we have voted to...to over...to susta...to override the veto. Community colleges, once again, it's a property tax issue if we did not override. And indigent defense aid for counties, once again, is a county property tax issue. If we don't do it it's profession help that we provide...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...for indigent defense. If you're well aware that county...county costs are enormously impacted by the public defender costs. This is a professional help in difficult cases. That's the essence of what we have to offer, in terms of overrided amounts to just about \$31 million. million-plus, twenty point...almost \$21 million, I think it is, twenty-two and eight, twenty-three. It's another \$23 million above what we went home with last night...what we left here last night with. I hope you can look at that over carefully and see. We're really down to the core of what's left in state government if we are to do further cuts. And at this point, we can't get specifics, once again, in any of those that are in one solid program. Some might ask, in a matter of interest, why there in programs that you can't get at. But as we've gotten into more difficult times, even recognized the last year or two, it gives you more flexibility within a program...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time. Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Well, thank you, Mr. President. Members, I rise in support of the committee amendment. Yesterday we had a long discussion on the original version, and to be quite honest, I didn't talk on it, but I was a no vote because I thought we needed to make more cuts. And we went back into committee last night, as you heard, and Senator Wehrbein, I think, recognized that the body tends...or wants to see more cuts, and that's what we did. You know, am I happy with everything in that list? Should more have been cut? Should less have been cut? You know, that's subjective, and everyone's going to have a